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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

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VISAS DONKEY, EUR

DEPT FOR CA/VO/L/C - BOB DOLCE

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT
TAGS: CVIS, GM (SCHEINDL, FRANZ)
COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJECT: SAO REQUEST - POSSIBLE 212(A)(33)
INELIGIBILITY

REF: (A) 90 US BERLIN 00178; (B) 90 FRANKFURT
00342; (C) 89 FRANKFURT 20054; (D) 89
FRANKFURT 17483;

1. VISAS DONKEY
2. SCHEINDL, FRANZ-ANDREAS GERMAN
- 22 MAY 1926 RAWA-RUSKA, USSR
- TOOLMAKER
3. AFTER HAVING FIRST CONTACTED POST FOR VISA
INFORMATION IN 1989, SUBJECT APPLIED IN PERSON
FOR B-2 VISA AND WAS INTERVIEWED ON APRIL 1,
1993. THIS CABLE REPORTS THE INFORMATION
OBTAINED DURING THIS INTERVIEW AND SUMMARIZES

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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POST'S PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS WITH SUBJECT.

4. SUBJECT FIRST CONTACTED AMCONGEN FRANKFURT ON NOVEMBER 1, 1989. WITH HIS MAILED-IN VISA APPLICATION HE ENCLOSED A LETTER MENTIONING HE HAD BEEN A MEMBER OF THE WAFFEN-SS AND EXPLAINING THAT HE JOINED BECAUSE HE, AS EVERYONE ELSE HIS AGE AT THE TIME, WANTED TO BE ONE OF THE BEST. IN MARCH 1990, SUBJECT WITHDREW HIS APPLICATION WHEN POST ASKED HIM TO APPEAR FOR A PERSONAL INTERVIEW.

5. SUBJECT DID NOT CONTACT POST AGAIN UNTIL FEBRUARY 1993, WHEN HE SENT A LETTER ASKING HOW TO REAPPLY FOR A VISA.

6. IN THE APRIL 1 INTERVIEW SUBJECT SAID HE WAS REAPPLYING FOR THE SAME REASON HE HAD INTENDED TO APPLY IN 1989. SUBJECT WANTS TO VISIT A FRIEND, CLARENCE TRIEGLAFF, IN APPLETON, WISCONSIN. TRIEGLAFF WAS AN AMERICAN SOLDIER STATIONED IN GERMANY WHEN SUBJECT MET HIM IN KASSEL IN 1946.

7. SUBJECT'S STORY CORRESPONDS TO BDC REFTEL A OF JANUARY 18, 1990 AND ADDS CONSIDERABLY MORE DETAIL. AFTER HAVING OBTAINED GERMAN CITIZENSHIP AS AN ETHNIC GERMAN IN 1940, SUBJECT SERVED AN APPRENTICESHIP FROM 1941 TO 1944 AS A TOOLMAKER WORKING IN AIRPLANE CONSTRUCTION AT THE GERHARD-FIESLER-WERKE IN KASSEL, AN ARMAMENTS FACTORY. IN 1944, SUBJECT VOLUNTEERED FOR THE SS. SUBJECT CLAIMS HE JOINED THE SS PRECISELY BECAUSE IT WAS CONSIDERED TO BE A SUICIDE SQUAD (HIMMELFAHRTSKOMMANDO). SUBJECT PROUDLY ASSERTS THAT OF THE 21,000 SOLDIERS IN HIS DIVISION AT THE BEGINNING OF 1944, ONLY 3,000 SURVIVED THE WAR.

8. WHEN CONOFF ASKED SUBJECT WHY HE VOLUNTEERED FOR A SUICIDE SQUAD INSTEAD OF DOING HIS BEST TO SURVIVE, SUBJECT REPLIED THAT IN HIS DAY, AN OATH WAS BINDING. TO THIS HE ADDED WITH SOME ENTHUSIASM THAT FOHRER, VOLK AND FATHERLAND MEANT EVERYTHING IN THOSE DAYS (FOHRER, VOLK UND VATERLAND; DAS WAR DAS A UND O!).

9. SUBJECT'S FIRST MILITARY ASSIGNMENT WAS WITH THE SS-STURMGESCHUETZ AUSBILDUNGS- UND ERSATZABTEILUNG (SS ASSAULT GUN TRAINING AND REPLACEMENT DETACHMENT) AT THE SS-TRUPPENEUBUNGSPLATZ (SS TROOP TRAINING GROUNDS) "HEIDELAGER" IN DISTRICT KRAKAU IN POLAND ON JUNE 15, 1944. HE RECEIVED INFANTRY TRAINING THERE. LATER, HIS DETACHMENT MOVED

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TO WODICE NEAR PRAGUE, WHERE SUBJECT WAS TRAINED AS A TANK GUNNER. THIS TRAINING AT THE HEIDELAGER AND IN WODICE LASTED UNTIL AUGUST 30, 1944. SUBJECT CLAIMS THE ONLY THING HE DID IN THIS TIME OTHER THAN TRAINING WAS THAT FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS IN AUGUST HE PARTICIPATED IN A MISSION TO FIND THE PARTISANS WHO WERE MURDERING GERMAN SOLDIERS DURING THEIR NIGHT GUARD DUTY. SUBJECT SAYS HE WAS UNSUCCESSFUL IN FINDING ANY PARTISANS.

10. SUBJECT'S COMMANDER (VORGESETZTE) DURING THIS PERIOD WAS NAMED TROESCHER. SUBJECT DOES NOT REMEMBER MUCH ABOUT HIS COMMANDER OTHER THAN THAT HE KEPT THE TROOPS WORKING HARD.

11. FROM SEPTEMBER 1, TO DECEMBER 11, 1944 SUBJECT WAS WITH THE FIRST ANTI-TANK DETACHMENT, FIRST COMPANY, TWELFTH SS-DIVISION "HITLER YOUTH" (I. PANZERJAEGERABTEILUNG, 1. KOMPAGNIE, 12. SS-DIVISION "HITLER JUGEND"). HE WAS STATIONED AT NIENBURG AN DER WESER AND RECEIVED FURTHER TRAINING AS A GUNNER. HIS COMMANDER WAS A MAN NAMED ASCHER WHO, ACCORDING TO SUBJECT, WAS A "GREAT GUY" (PRIMA KERL) BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN A FRONT-LINE SOLDIER.

12. FROM DECEMBER 12, 1944 TO MAY 8, 1945 SUBJECT WAS WITH THE MAINTENANCE SQUADRON (INSTANDSSTAFFEL) OF THE TWELFTH SS-DIVISION. HE WAS FIRST STATIONED IN BELGIUM DURING THE ARDENNES OFFENSIVE BUT NOT INVOLVED IN COMBAT. HIS JOB WAS TO REPAIR BROKEN OR DAMAGED EQUIPMENT AND BRING FOOD AND AMMUNITION TO THE COMBAT TROOPS. THEN, AROUND FEBRUARY 1945, HIS DIVISION WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE BRIDGEHEAD OF THE GRAN RIVER (COULD HE HAVE MEANT THE HRON RIVER?) AT STUHLWEISSENBURG IN HUNGARY. FROM THIS TIME ON, SUBJECT WAS ASSIGNED TO THE INTERPRETING STAFF (DOLMETSCHERSTAB). HE ACTED AS AN INTERPRETER BETWEEN GERMAN AND RUSSIAN TO FACILITATE COMMUNICATION WITH THE SOVIET POWS WHO WERE SET TO WORK FOR HIS DETACHMENT, AND HELPED HIS COMMANDER COMMUNICATE WITH THE CIVILIAN POPULATION. SUBJECT CLAIMS THE SOVIET POWS LIVED AND MOVED ABOUT FREELY WITHIN THE GERMAN CAMP, DID THE SAME MENIAL LABOR AS THE GERMANS DID AND RECEIVED THE SAME RATIONS. APPLICANT REFERRED JOKINGLY TO THE ASIATIC SOVIET PRISONERS FROM KAZAKHSTAN AS K-MOSQUITOES (K-MUECKEN).

13. LATER, SUBJECT'S DETACHMENT HAD TO RETREAT FURTHER AND FURTHER WESTWARD UNTIL MAY 8, 1945 WHEN SUBJECT SURRENDERED TO THE AMERICANS AT

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THE RIVER ENNS IN THE STEIERMARK IN AUSTRIA. SUBJECT'S ONLY PROMOTION WITHIN THE SS HAD COME ONLY EIGHT DAYS EARLIER WHEN ON MAY 1 HE WAS PROMOTED TO LANCE-CORPORAL (GEFREITER).

14. SUBJECT'S COMMANDER WITH THE INSTANDSSTAFFEL WAS NAMED WINSZUR, ALSO A "GREAT GUY" (PRIMA KERL) ACCORDING TO SUBJECT, BECAUSE HE ALSO HAD BEEN A FRONT-LINE SOLDIER.

15. DURING THE INTERVIEW SUBJECT PRESENTED HIS PAY BOOK (SOLDBUCH), WHICH CONTAINS SOME INFORMATION WHICH IS SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM, OR IN ADDITION TO, THE INFORMATION SUBJECT PROVIDED DURING HIS INTERVIEW. STRANGELY ENOUGH, SUBJECT'S FIELD TROOP DETACHMENT (FELDRUPPENTEIL) IS LISTED AS ANTI-TANK REGIMENT TWELVE, "HITLER YOUTH" COMPANY STIRB (J./PZ. RGT. 12 "HJ" STIRB). THE NUMBER OF THE "KRIEGSSTAMMROLLE" OF THIS DETACHMENT IS 430. SUBJECT'S FIRST REPLACEMENT TROOP DETACHMENT (ERSATZTRUPPENTEIL) IS LISTED AS BEING STATIONED IN RASTENBURG IN EAST PRUSSIA. ALTHOUGH THE ABBREVIATIONS ARE NOT EXACTLY CLEAR, THIS REPLACEMENT TROOP DETACHMENT APPEARS TO BE LISTED AS SS ANTI-TANK TRAINING AND REPLACEMENT DETACHMENT ONE (SS/Z. JG. A. U. E. ABT. 1). THE FINAL REPLACEMENT TROOP DETACHMENT ENTRY IS LISTED AS SS ANTI-TANK ASSAULT GUN TRAINING AND REPLACEMENT DETACHMENT 3 (SS PZ.JG. (STU.GESCH.) A. U. E. ABT. 3) AND AS BEING STATIONED FIRST IN WOTITZ NEAR PRAGUE (PRESUMABLY THE SAME PLACE SUBJECT REFERRED TO AS "WODICE") AND THEN IN CHLINN. CHLINN IS LISTED AS BEING NEAR ANOTHER TOWN, BUT THE NAME OF THE TOWN IS ILLEGIBLE.

16. SUBJECT DENIES EVER HAVING PARTICIPATED IN PERSECUTION OF ANYONE BECAUSE OF RACE, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN OR POLITICAL OPINION. HE SAYS HE DID NOT LEARN OF THE FULL EXTENT OF NATIONAL SOCIALIST ATROCITIES OR OF WHAT HAPPENED IN THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS UNTIL AFTER THE WAR.

17. SUBJECT SAYS THE ONLY EYEWITNESS EXPERIENCE PERTAINING TO CONCENTRATION CAMPS THAT HE HAD BEFORE THE END OF THE WAR WAS AN INCIDENT THAT OCCURRED IN 1945 AT A BRIDGE IN ST. POLTEN, AUSTRIA. HE AND A FEW COMRADES SAW CONCENTRATION CAMP GUARDS MARCHING FEMALE PRISONERS ALONG THE RIVER IN RETREAT FROM THE RED ARMY. THE GUARDS WOULD NOT LET THE PRISONERS DRINK EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE OBVIOUSLY EXHAUSTED AND DEHYDRATED THE COMMANDER OF THE GUARDS PULLED HIS GUN AND

THREATENED SUBJECT AND HIS COMRADES WHEN THEY CONFRONTED THE GUARDS ABOUT THEIR MISTREATMENT OF THE PRISONERS. ONE OF SUBJECT'S COMRADES THEN FORCIBLY DISARMED THE COMMANDER. SUBJECT AND COMRADES ESCAPED SERIOUS TROUBLE WITH THE SD REGARDING THIS INCIDENT BECAUSE THEIR COMMANDER WINSZUR ADVISED THEM TO LAY LOW FOR A WHILE.

18. WHEN ASKED IF HE PERSONALLY KNEW ANYONE ELSE WHO HAD PARTICIPATED IN NATIONAL SOCIALIST CRIMES, SUBJECT SAID THAT HE DID NOT KNOW ANYONE, BUT THAT HE DID RECALL THAT **ADOLF EICHMANN** ONCE VISITED HIS DETACHMENT WHEN THEY WERE STATIONED IN HUNGARY AND SPOKE TO THE TROOPS. SUBJECT DOES NOT RECALL WHAT EICHMANN SAID, NOR THE PUPOSE OF HIS VISIT.

19. WHEN CONOFF ASKED SUBJECT HOW HE FEELS ABOUT HAVING BEEN WILLING TO DIE FOR SUCH AN EVIL CAUSE, SUBJECT GAVE AN INTERESTING ANSWER. WITH SEEMINGLY GENUINE SADNESS AND ANGER, HE REPLIED THAT HE WAS ABSOLUTELY SHOCKED AFTER THE WAR WHEN HE HEARD ABOUT THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS AND THE EXTERMINATION OF THE JEWS. HE WAS VERY ANGRY ABOUT HAVING RISKED HIS LIFE FOR SCOUNDRELS WHO WOULD ORDER AND COMMIT SUCH ATROCITIES. HOWEVER, SUBJECT IMMEDIATELY ADDED TO THIS, AS IF THE THOUGHT WERE COMPLETELY NATURAL AND TO BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED, THAT "ADMITTEDLY, ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE SHOULD PERHAPS BE MADE TO WORK, BUT THEY SHOULD NOT BE KILLED" ("GUT, VOLKSFEINDE SOLLTE MAN VIELLEICHT ARBEITEN LASSEN, ABER DOCH NICHT TOTEN").

20. WHEN CONOFF ASKED SUBJECT AT THE END OF THE INTERVIEW IF HE HAD ANYTHING ELSE TO SAY, HE SAID THAT HE KNEW FROM EXPERIENCE THAT THE ONLY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NAZISM AND COMMUNISM WAS THAT ONE IS BROWN AND THE OTHER IS RED. NEVERTHELESS, HE HAD BEEN WILLING TO GIVE HIS LIFE TO THE NAZI CAUSE BECAUSE OF HIS AVERSION TO AND FEAR OF BOLSHEVISM.

21. CONOFF'S OVERARCHING IMPRESSION OF SUBJECT IS THAT HIS CLAIMS ARE NOT RELIABLE ENOUGH TO BE BELIEVED WITHOUT VERIFICATION. ALTHOUGH HE DENIED SEVERAL TIMES HAVING EVER BEEN IN AGREEMENT WITH THE GOALS OR IDEOLOGY OF NAZISM, MANY OTHER THINGS HE SAID, AND THE ENTHUSIASTIC WAY HE SOMETIMES SAID THEM, SEEMED TO REVEAL THAT THE NAZI ERA AND THE MYTHOLOGY OF THAT ERA STILL HAVE A POWERFUL

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EFFECT ON HIM. THE ASSERTION THAT SUBJECT STATED MORE ENTHUSIASTICALLY THAN ANY OTHER ILLUSTRATES THAT: HE SAID THAT THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING IN THE SS WAS COMRADESHIP, AND THAT HE IS SURE THAT IF HE HAD EVER BEEN WOUNDED IN BATTLE HIS COMRADES WOULD NEVER HAVE LEFT HIM LYING THERE, BUT WOULD HAVE KILLED HIM TO SAVE HIM FROM BEING TAKEN PRISONER.

22. POST IS OF THE OPINION THAT THE ATTITUDES THAT THE SUBJECT REVEALED DURING HIS INTERVIEW, AS WELL AS THE BLATANT CONTRADICTION BETWEEN THESE ATTITUDES AND SUBJECT'S CLAIMED REJECTION OF NAZISM, WARRANT CONSIDERABLE SUSPICION. POST IS LOOKING FORWARD TO DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE.
SHOSTAL

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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